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SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1911.

## The Church Congress in Washington.

The gathering of churchmen in this city next month upon the occasion of the annual session of the Church Congress will be an event of more than usual interest and importance. President Taft has signified his willingness to make the principal address, and the personnel of the Washington committee, headed by Associate Justice Lurton, assures thorough attention to every detail necessary to attain complete success.

The fact that this congress is an open forum for the discussion of questions vitally affecting church interests insures, of course, the utterance of divergent views. It is this very freedom of expression, however, which will give importance to the occasion. Out of a multitude of counsel will come the wisdom which is essential to church development. It is also worth while to remember that differences of opinion are signs of vitality and interest. The all-important fact is that the delegates who will attend the congress will, after all, be inspired by the desire to extend the cause of Christianity, and that this central idea will dominate their deliberations. They may not agree always as to details of accomplishment, but they are certain never to lose sight of the necessity of achieving ultimate result.

The members of the congress will find in Washington a congenial and helpful atmosphere. The religious element here is numerically large, and despite the efforts of some to insist that the city, as a National Capital, is largely dominated by the world, the flesh, and the devil, the workers in the vineyard know that this is absolutely untrue. They can testify from personal knowledge to the solid and substantial faith which is the basis of Washington citizenship, and they are equally aware that in no city will a church congress be more sincerely and cordially welcomed than in the National Capital.

There is another claim for distinction other than being the home of Senator Bailey and the manure ground for the United States army. Its legislature has withdrawn after one of the poorest sessions, and with a record of no important legislation.

The Navy Department assures us that the sinking of the San Marcos, formerly the Texas, has solved important naval problems. Perhaps it did, but it was a costly lesson, this shooting at a \$100,000 target.

The poor fellow who was so badly hurt in an auto collision in New York the other day while on his way to his own wedding is wondering what experience will come next.

## Federal Civil Service.

Most of the government employees are now working for the Federal government instead of for a political organization. This is amply proven by the twenty-seventh annual report of the Civil Service Commission. While the fight against the spoils system has not yet been fully won, each year witnesses an advance. In the Federal offices the work of patronage brokers has been reduced to small proportions.

The real purposes of this reform are not alone to secure a better and more efficient class of public employees, nor yet to avert the summary dismissal from the public service, for no fault of their own, of individuals who are capable and industrious. The real purpose is to get public employees who will work for the government, that pays them, and not for an organization of politicians who procure them their places. It makes it impossible for public employees primarily to devote themselves to carrying out the projects of the party bosses. The American people would never tolerate activity in politics on the part of army or navy officers. Is there any more valid reason why they should endorse the work of patronage brokers has been reduced to small proportions.

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for the government saved no man whose sponsor had been defeated for Congress.

Flowers which bloom in a spring ought to know better.

## Now Help the Clerks.

The organization for assisting the government employees in their efforts to secure more pay has now been perfected. The program is a definite one, and a nucleus of a fund has already been secured. The work should be prosecuted with energy.

The logic of the situation is so palpable with the employees that it would seem an easy task to create a widespread sentiment in their favor. For a quarter of a century the salaries of the great mass of subordinates have not been raised, although the cost of living has enormously increased. The problem of existence has, therefore, become a serious one for the government employee. In addition to this, it must be remembered that departmental work requires more than the average amount of intelligence and that it is also to be expected that the government clerk and his family shall be decently housed and clothed and that his children shall be educated. In fact, the demands upon these employees by virtue of their positions are largely disproportionate to the salaries which they receive.

The committee which has the matter in charge is composed of practical business men, who will see that the contributions to the cause are wisely and effectively expended. With a substantial public sentiment supporting the movement, Congress will eventually be induced to grant the increase. The campaign of education is, after all, the proper foundation upon which to build, and it cannot fail to be productive of the desired result in course of time.

Will the coronation trip to be presented to King George at the Crystal Palace be called the King's Mac?

## Bringing Children Into Court.

A little nine-year-old girl, in a moment of childish ignorance and curiosity, pulled the handle of a fire alarm bell, and the engines, of course, responded to an unnecessary call. The letter of the law was violated, and forthwith a police officer took the child into custody and she was haled before the Juvenile Court. The incident, happily, did not go further, for the judge of that tribunal promptly released the little offender with a few words of admonition and advice.

The question arises, however, as to the wisdom or necessity of arresting and taking into court this little child. It was plainly evident that there was no malicious or criminal intent, and it would seem as if a word to the parents might have been sufficient to prevent a recurrence of the offense. There is, we believe, an eagerness to bring people into court that is not always justified by circumstances, and this observation applies to other cities as well as Washington. The fact that a large number of cases which are taken to the Police Court are trivial and inconsequential is shown by the numerous dismissals which are recorded, and there is no doubt that the announcement of arrest and court attendance is frequently imposed when a simple warning would be sufficient. For some citizens, large and small, the court is a proper destination; but in other instances, as in the case of the little girl, it would seem as if there ought to be lodged somewhere sufficient discretion to deal satisfactorily with minor infractions without dragging the offenders into court.

Of course, Mr. Taft leaves the social functions to his wife. But can it be denied that he is seen nevertheless at a good many "tees"?

France also is agreeable to international arbitration. After all, it is merely writing into form what now is the recognized spirit of peace between civilized nations.

Since Dana Gibson created the American girl, nothing has produced upon us such an effect of art as the present-day picture-card girl.

## A LITTLE NONSENSE.

HAREM SKIRTS.

When styles turn to trousersettes. We think the plan immense. They'll cut such clothes. On lines of common sense.

But when we see those trousersettes. We find but little gain. For flowerie wide. From either side. Depends the usual train.

Utterly Reckless.

"She was always flighty as a girl." "She is yet. Why, she will get divorced without having a sign of a husband in sight."

Auto Literature.

"Then you don't think much of this motor novel?" "No; to me it reads like an automobile catalogue with a slight plot."

Pugilism Pays Better.

Peace is more renowned than war. But, I'd state. No one hangs up purses for a debate.

A Prosaic Affair.

"Anything romantic about their wedding?" "Nothing whatever. She can cook, and he has a job."

One Method.

"Do you always keep smiling about your daily duties?" "Now; I look grouchy. Then I ain't asked to do no extra work."

Very Foolish.

"Last night my wife and myself had the most foolish squabble of our married life."

"What was the subject of your dispute?" "How we would invest our money, if we had any."

## SOCIAL GOSSIP OF FOREIGN CAPITALS

The latest addition to the statutory of London, the effigy of the late Duke of Devonshire, was unveiled recently by the Marquis of Lansdowne. The statue is of heroic size, in bronze, and represents the duke in the uniform of the privy council, with the robes and insignia of the Garter. The statue stands at the junction of the Horse Guards avenue and Whitehall, just outside the United Service Institution.

Before unveiling the statue, Lord Lansdowne delivered a brief eulogy upon the statesman, with whom at one time he was associated in political life. In the first place, he was a man possessing a sense of duty stronger, perhaps, than any of our public men—duty to himself, to his party, and above all, to his country. The second characteristic was the absolute independence of his nature. He was a strong party man, but he would not go all lengths with his party. He would sacrifice his own interest, his own convenience, but not the principles and convictions which he held.

His third outstanding characteristic was the transparent sincerity of his nature. He had an absolute contempt for the kind of half-truths and evasions which sometimes were resorted to for the purpose of getting over a difficulty. And it was the possession of these qualities which won for him the unique position which he filled in public life.

The late duke (Spencer Compton) was the eighth in line of succession. He was a knight of the Garter, a lord of the admiralty, a member of the privy council, twice secretary of war, then postmaster general, chief secretary for Ireland, secretary for India, and lord president of the council. He was lord rector of the University of Liverpool, and of Victoria University. He was born in 1823, and married Countess Louise von Alton, of Hannover, widow of the seventh Duke of Manchester. He died in 1902, and was succeeded by his nephew, Victor Christian William Cavendish, the present duke, Marquis of Hartington, Earl of Burlington, and Baron of Overton. He had married in a former life that the foundation for the great wealth of the house of Cavendish was laid through royal gifts of abbey lands on the dissolution of monasteries. Sir William Cavendish in 1257, who was one of the gentlemen ushers to Cardinal Wolsey. In 1596 a Sir William was elevated to the peerage as Baron Cavendish of Hardwick, and was made Earl of Devonshire in 1617. The fourth earl was created a duke and a marquis in 1844.

The new Earl of Argyll, Viscount Eglar, of the younger branch of the ducal house of Argyll, is a very delicate man of forty. Constant ill-health has kept him out of public life, otherwise he would have been heard of at Westminster, as he had strong political ambitions. He endeavored to take part in a recent election as a Unionist candidate for the Guildford division of Surrey, but he was taken ill on the platform and had to retire.

The new Countess Cavendish is a cousin of the Marquis of Bath, and sister to the beautiful Lady Hindle. She enters very little for the smart world of London, spending most of her time in Scotland, and in the country. She is a devoted wife and mother, and is known for her beauty and her grace. She is a cousin of the Marquis of Bath, and sister to the beautiful Lady Hindle. She enters very little for the smart world of London, spending most of her time in Scotland, and in the country. She is a devoted wife and mother, and is known for her beauty and her grace.

The friends of King George's election recently celebrated the opening of the new Parliament one lord remarked pointedly that it was doubtful if the "King's English" ever was spoken better from the throne. King George's oratorical abilities are familiar to Englishmen, but it is not so generally known that he can be a capital ex tempore speaker in an emergency. On one occasion, when opening a bazaar, he began: "When I came here I had quite a beautiful speech committed to memory, so much so that I even could repeat it backward, if necessary; but, alas, these charming circumstances have driven every word of it out of my head, and I am as helpless as a ship which has lost her rudder. However, here goes," and, forthwith he plunged into a spontaneous address so full of happy compliment and so full of humor that his audience was alternately delighted and convulsed.

Perhaps the most extraordinary incident in King's speech was when King George IV, as prince regent, had wagged that he would introduce in the middle of it the words, "Bah, bah, black sheep." This he actually did and won the bet. The king generally accepted all the sentences concerning Britain's position in Spain, the prince regent paused, rapidly uttered the words, "Bah, bah, black sheep," and resumed his speech.

When the New York Herald published the story of the king's speech, it was a great sensation. The king's speech was a great success, and the king was a great success.

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## MEN WITH A PAST.

Make Honorable Record in After Life to Aton for Early Misdeeds.

From the New York World.

A Brooklyn lawyer, suspended from practice, who disappeared seven years ago and was thought to have committed suicide, reappears as the leader of the minority in the Michigan senate. The chief of police of Danville, Va., is recognized after many years as an escaped convict under sentence in Georgia.

It is pleasing to note that in every one of these cases identity was admitted, and that the honorable record of after life was generally accepted as atoning for early misdeeds or obscure origin. Exposure, therefore, while painful in some instances, has not operated to discourage those who, in many other places, are seeking honestly and industriously to overcome the disadvantage of a bad start.

Dress and Dross.

From the London Daily News.

The woman of fashion no longer calls for cloth-of-gold sewn with pins of jewels. She breaks competitors more easily with simple tailor-made costumes at 30 guineas to be changed at the weekend, with two-guinea hats to be worn three and thrown aside. The old styles were the symbol of money in a strong box; the new would reveal up to gold thread. The new styles stand insouciantly for money pouring out as from a tap left running.

No Insult Meant.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Rabbi Wise of New York, is unaccountably sensitive to the use of the word "freight" as applied to immigrants. Freight is good English for a load, whether carried in the first cabin, the steerage, the ship's hold, or, latterly, in land vehicles.

The Elasticity of the Mails.

From the Dallas News.

Of course, our postal department has its faults, but it is still possible in this country to put a thousand kisses in a letter and send them under a 2-cent stamp.

No 'Possum This Time.

From the Memphis Commercial.

Obviously a little 'possum went a bing way with the President. He did not ask for a reputation when he went to Georgia this time.

One Way.

From the New Haven Palladium.

Mayor Gaynor has furnished a little girl with a recipe for happiness. He probably told her to keep out of politics.

No Wanted.

From the Charleston News and Courier.

Now that it is possible to buy a drink lawfully in Alabama, so many persons won't want to.

## VIEWS AND INTERVIEWS

Sables Getting Scarce.

Sables are going up in price, according to Samuel P. Steuer, of New York, who is in the wholesale fur and hide trade and was seen at the New Exhibit.

"Mr. Grove, the British consul in St. Petersburg," said Mr. Steuer, "reports that all fur-bearing animals, especially sables, are becoming fewer each year. Hunters give it as their opinion, he explains, that this decrease is due to the fact that the growth of the timber trade has brought many workmen to the north, and the sable has moved into more remote districts."

"According to the report prepared by the Siberian members of the Douma, the quantity of fur obtained is steadily decreasing every year, not because they are hunted less keenly than formerly, but because the number of animals in the country is steadily decreasing, mainly owing to the methods used in their capture. This, in some districts the sable has been exterminated, and in others of late years it has rapidly decreased."

"It appears that sables are caught in large numbers in the early autumn and spring, when the animals are molting and the females are with young, a system, or want of system, at once useless and ruinous. In view of this, the imperial Russian government will be approached on the subject of instituting a closed season for fur-bearing animals in general."

Social War Unending.

Charles W. Peters, of Chicago, chief deputy sheriff of Cook County, Ill., who was recently seen at the Arlington, said that, humiliating as it may seem to confess it, society, after a long years of social order of one sort or another, and 2,000 years of Christianity, is still in a constant state of siege.

"The property class is compelled to maintain possession by force or by threat of force."

"After twenty-four years' experience in the sheriff's office," said Mr. Peters, "I have become convinced that the subject of the punishment of prisoners has not, but little, advancement. The crimes which are chronic in our daily press are only a small portion of the actual crimes committed. The impression that all the defalcation and grafting is committed by public officials is erroneous."

"One of the most annoying and aggravating problems to solve is the utter disregard of a very large proportion of our population for the rights and comforts of the other portion. In my judgment, the acts of that class are as annoying and aggravating as those of the confirmed criminal."

"For example, hundreds of persons are killed annually through the carelessness of automobile chauffeurs. Their disregard for the rights and safety of pedestrians is amazing. On the other hand the disregard and carelessness of the pedestrian for the rights of the automobile owner are likewise amazing."

"I would suggest that the so-called criminal reformers devote at least a part of their time to educating people to refrain from the reckless acts of carelessness as well as crime."

An American National Flower.

Henry Turner Bailey, of Boston, who was recently seen in this city, in speaking of an American national flower, said: "There should be more work done toward getting up a national flower. I recommend the mountain laurel. It is hardy, it is beautiful, it is the shape of a five-pointed star. It is truly American, for it can take care of itself. Discard your roses; they are affected and are not American. But get yourselves some distinctive sign or symbol to work into your dress pattern, on your stationery, and into your household linen."

Encourage photography in the schools and collections of art. Start collections of embroideries, and photographs of the finest trees of the town, the finest pond, the best clump of vegetation."

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